

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time has expired.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1505.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER ACT OF 1997

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1417) to provide for the design, construction, furnishing, and equipping of a center for performing arts within the complex known as the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1417

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Hispanic Cultural Center Act of 1997".

### SEC. 2. CONSTRUCTION OF A CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States has an enriched legacy of Hispanic influence in politics, government, economic development, and cultural expression.

(2) The Hispanic culture in what is now the United States can be traced to 1528 when a Spanish expedition from Cuba to Florida was shipwrecked on the Texas coast.

(3) The Hispanic culture in New Mexico can be traced to 1539 when a Spanish Franciscan Friar, Marcos de Niza, and his guide, Estevanico, traveled into present day New Mexico in search of the fabled city of Cibola and made contact with the people of Zuni.

(4) The Hispanic influence in New Mexico is particularly dominant and a part of daily living for all the citizens of New Mexico, who are a diverse composite of racial, ethnic, and cultural peoples. Don Juan de Onate and the first New Mexican families established the first capital in the United States, San Juan de los Caballeros, in July of 1598.

(5) Based on the 1990 census, there are approximately 650,000 Hispanics in New Mexico, the majority having roots reaching back ten or more generations.

(6) There are an additional 200,000 Hispanics living outside of New Mexico with roots in New Mexico.

(7) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center is a living tribute to the Hispanic experience and will provide all citizens of New Mexico, the Southwestern United States, the entire United States, and around the world, an opportunity to learn about, partake in, and enjoy the unique Hispanic culture, and the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will assure that this 400-year old culture is preserved.

(8) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will teach, showcase, and share all facets of Hispanic culture, including literature, performing arts, visual arts, culinary arts, and language arts.

(9) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will promote a better cross-cultural understanding of the Hispanic culture and the

contributions of individuals to the society in which we all live.

(10) In 1993, the legislature and Governor of New Mexico created the Hispanic Cultural Division as a division within the Office of Cultural Affairs. One of the principal responsibilities of the Hispanic Cultural Division is to oversee the planning, construction, and operation of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(11) The mission of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center is to create a greater appreciation and understanding of Hispanic culture.

(12) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will serve as a local, regional, national, and international site for the study and advancement of Hispanic culture, expressing both the rich history and the forward-looking aspirations of Hispanics throughout the world.

(13) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will be a Hispanic arts and humanities showcase to display the works of national and international artists, and to provide a venue for educators, scholars, artists, children, elders, and the general public.

(14) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will provide a venue for presenting the historic and contemporary representations and achievements of the Hispanic culture.

(15) The New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center will sponsor arts and humanities programs, including programs related to visual arts of all forms (including drama, dance, and traditional and contemporary music), research, literary arts, genealogy, oral history, publications, and special events such as, fiestas, culinary arts demonstrations, film video productions, storytelling presentations and education programs.

(16) Phase I of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center complex is scheduled to be completed by August of 1998 and is planned to consist of an art gallery with exhibition space and a museum, administrative offices, a restaurant, a ballroom, a gift shop, an amphitheater, a research and literary arts center, and other components.

(17) Phase II of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center complex is planned to include a performing arts center (containing a 700-seat theater, a stage house, and a 300-seat film/video theater), a 150-seat black box theater, an art studio building, a culinary arts building, and a research and literary arts building.

(18) It is appropriate for the Federal Government to share in the cost of constructing the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center because Congress recognizes that the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center has the potential to be a premier facility for performing arts and a national repository for Hispanic arts and culture.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CENTER.—The term "Center" means the Center for Performing Arts, within the complex known as the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center, which Center for the Performing Arts is a central facility in Phase II of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center complex.

(2) HISPANIC CULTURAL DIVISION.—The term "Hispanic Cultural Division" means the Hispanic Cultural Division of the Office of Cultural Affairs of the State of New Mexico.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(c) CONSTRUCTION OF CENTER.—The Secretary shall award a grant to New Mexico to pay for the Federal share of the costs of the design, construction, furnishing, and equipping of the Center for Performing Arts that will be located at a site to be determined by the Hispanic Cultural Division, within the

complex known as the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive a grant awarded under subsection (c), New Mexico, acting through the Director of the Hispanic Cultural Division—

(A) shall submit to the Secretary, within 30 days of the date of enactment of this section, a copy of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center Program document dated January 1996; and

(B) shall exercise due diligence to expeditiously execute, in a period not to exceed 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the memorandum of understanding under paragraph (2) recognizing that time is of the essence for the construction of the Center because 1998 marks the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.

(2) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The memorandum of understanding described in paragraph (1) shall provide—

(A) the date of completion of the construction of the Center;

(B) that Antoine Predock, an internationally recognized architect, shall be the supervising architect for the construction of the Center or any other architect subsequently named by the State;

(C) that the Director of the Hispanic Cultural Division shall award the contract for architectural engineering and design services in accordance with the New Mexico Procurement Code; and

(D) that the contract for the construction of the Center—

(i) shall be awarded pursuant to a competitive bidding process; and

(ii) shall be awarded not later than 3 months after the solicitation for bids for the construction of the Center.

(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in subsection (c) shall be 50 percent.

(4) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the costs described in subsection (c) shall be in cash or in kind fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services. The non-Federal share shall include any contribution received by New Mexico for the design, construction, furnishing, or equipping of Phase I or Phase II of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center complex prior to the date of enactment of this section. The non-Federal share of the costs described in subsection (c) shall include the following:

(A) \$16,410,000 that was appropriated by the New Mexico legislature since January 1, 1993, for the planning, property acquisition, design, construction, furnishing, and equipping of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center complex.

(B) \$116,000 that was appropriated by the New Mexico legislature for fiscal year 1995 for the startup and operating expenses of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(C) \$226,000 that was appropriated by the New Mexico legislature for fiscal year 1996 for the startup and operating expenses of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(D) \$442,000 that was appropriated by the New Mexico legislature for fiscal year 1997 for the startup and operating expenses of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(E) \$551,000 that was appropriated by the New Mexico legislature for fiscal year 1998 for the startup and operating expenses of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(F) A 10.9-acre lot with a historic 22,000 square foot building donated by the Mayor and City Council of Albuquerque, New Mexico, to New Mexico for the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(G) 12 acres of "Bosque" land adjacent to the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center

complex for use by the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(H) The \$30,000 donation by the Sandia National Laboratories and Lockheed Martin Corporation to support the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center and the program activities of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

(e) USE OF FUNDS FOR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, FURNISHING, AND EQUIPMENT.—The funds received under a grant awarded under subsection (c) shall be used only for the design, construction, management, inspection, furnishing, and equipment of the Center.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section a total of \$17,800,000 for fiscal year 1998 and succeeding fiscal years. Funds appropriated pursuant to the authority of the preceding sentence shall remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. PETRI] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MARTINEZ] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. PETRI].

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of S. 1417, the Hispanic Cultural Center Act of 1997. This bill provides for the design, construction and equipping of a Center for Performing Arts with the complex of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.

Already, \$5.5 million has been appropriated for the center. These funds are subject to authorization, which can be provided through the passage of the bill that is before us.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. REDMOND].

(Mr. REDMOND asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REDMOND. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. PETRI] for yielding me time to speak in support of Senate bill 1417, the Hispanic Cultural Center Act.

Madam Speaker, 1998 will mark the 400th anniversary of the establishment of the Hispanic community in New Mexico. The anniversary represents a perfect time to pay tribute to the Spanish people of New Mexico, the Southwest, and the United States.

The State of New Mexico has invested over \$17.7 million toward the establishment of phase 1 of the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center. In addition, the city of Albuquerque has donated 10.9 acres and a historic 22,000-square-foot building. Twelve acres of bosque land near the Rio Grande have also been donated by the Middle Grande Conservancy District. Private contributors are also helping to meet the Hispanic Cultural Center goals.

This bill authorizes funding to match the New Mexico contribution. This authorization is to build a critical Hispanic performing arts center at an estimated cost of \$17.8 million.

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This multifaceted Hispanic Cultural Center is designed to showcase, share,

archive, preserve, and enhance the rich Hispanic culture for local, regional, and national audiences. The Hispanic Cultural Center will be an Hispanic arts and humanities showcase to display the works of national and international artists and to provide for a venue of educators, scholars, artists, children, elders, and the general public.

Once built, the Hispanic Cultural Center will employ over 100 people. A whole new industry of preserving, showcasing, and enhancing the pride in Hispanic cultural roots is vital for New Mexico and for Hispanic culture.

I would like to note that New Mexico is indebted to the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. STEVE SCHIFF], my colleague from the First District. I believe that authorizing the Federal funding for the Hispanic Performing Arts Center will be a significant step towards building a national treasure in its critical, formative stages.

I urge my colleagues to support the funding for the Hispanic Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque, NM, in honor of the 40th anniversary of Spanish culture, and in hopes of seeing the preservation and enhancement of this culture flourish to its 50th year, I urge my colleagues to pass the Senate bill, S. 1417.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1417, an act to authorize funding for the Hispanic Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This appropriation, as the gentleman who just spoke has said, will match the \$17.8 million the State of New Mexico has appropriated for the project.

The construction of the center is being undertaken in preparation for the 40th anniversary of Spanish presence in New Mexico. The Hispanic Cultural Center, of which the Performing Arts Center is part, is designed to showcase, share, archive, preserve, and enhance the rich Hispanic culture for local, regional, and national audiences.

I understand this measure has bipartisan support, both here and in the Senate. I urge support for this important cultural initiative.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. PETRI] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1417.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMENDING FEDERAL CHARTER FOR GROUP HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules

and pass the bill (H.R. 3025) to amend the Federal charter for Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc., and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3025

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CHARTER FOR GROUP HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

The Act entitled "An Act providing for the incorporation of certain persons as Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc.", approved August 11, 1939 (53 Stat. 1412), is amended—

(1) by inserting after section 9 the following new section:

"SEC. 10. The corporation may have 1 class of members, consisting of at least 1 member and not more than 30 members, as determined appropriate by the board of trustees. The bylaws for the corporation shall prescribe the designation of such class as well as the rights, privileges and qualifications of such class, which may include, but shall not be limited to—

"(1) the manner of election, appointment or removal of a member of the corporation;

"(2) matters on which a member of the corporation has the right to vote; and

"(3) meeting, notice, quorum, voting and proxy requirements and procedures.

If a member of the corporation is a corporation, such member shall be a nonprofit corporation.";

(2) by redesignating section 10 as section 11; and

(3) by adding at the end of section 11 (as so redesignated) the following: "The corporation may not be dissolved without approval by Congress.";

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. DAVIS and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Ms. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS].

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Federal Charter of GHMSI, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan of the National Capital Area. This bill is necessary in order to enable a letter of intent between the parties to combine to be subject to regulatory approval in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

GHMSI will continue to be subject to the District's Nonprofit Corporation Act and is under the jurisdiction of the insurance superintendent. GHMSI will continue to be bound by its existing certificates of authority and licenses and will continue to be bound by applicable laws and regulations.

H.R. 497, which passed this House in February, would have repealed the Federal charter. This bill reflects concerns which were subsequently raised. All other Blue Cross plans in the country are State-chartered corporations operating under State regulatory oversight. Due to a 1939 pre-Home Rule statute,